

REMARKS**Objection to the Specification**

The Examiner objects to the amendment to the specification, filed January 6, 2005. Specifically, the Examiner states that the "RequirementFulfillment" subject matter is new matter.

Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's assertion that the RequirementFulfillment subject matter is new matter under 35 U.S.C. § 132. First, the unified modeling language (UML) diagram of FIGURE 4 clearly depicts "RequirementFulfillment" object. *See* MPEP § 608.04(a). Secondly, Applicant concurrently filed the present application with U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/680,751, entitled "Innovation Information Management Model" (the '751 application). Additionally, Applicant incorporated the '751 application by reference into the current application. *See* current application, page 8, lines 16-21. The MPEP notes that when another document is incorporated by reference, the information of the other document "is as much a part of the application as filed as if the text was repeated in the application." MPEP § 2163.07(b). Furthermore, subsequent entry of the incorporated information into text of the application is "not new matter." MPEP § 2163.07(b). The '751 application contains discussion of the RequirementFulfillment subject matter. *See, inter alia*, page 10, lines 8-13 of the '751 application. Accordingly, the RequirementFulfillment subject matter was part of the originally filed application and does not constitute new matter.

Applicants request the Examiner to withdraw the objection to the specification.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph

Claims 21-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The Examiner states that the claims contain subject matter which is not supported by the application as filed. Specifically, the Examiner states that the "requirement fulfillment interface" was not defined in the original application.

However, as noted above in the section directed to the objection to the specification, the application as originally filed contained support for the requirement fulfillment interface.

Accordingly, the claims satisfy all requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the rejection.

Conclusion

In view of the above, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance. Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge Deposit Account No. 08-2025, under Order No. 10003654-1 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

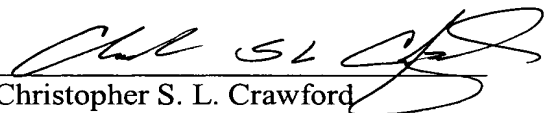
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail, Label No. EV 482708253US in an envelope addressed to: M/S Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313.

Date of Deposit: March 29, 2005

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Respectfully submitted,

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